

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

1. (currently amended) A method of cementing comprising the steps of:  
providing a cement composition comprising a cement, and a dispersant composition, the dispersant composition comprising a surfactant and a ~~co-surfactant~~ hydrolyzed protein;  
placing the cement composition in a desired location; and  
allowing the cement composition to set.

2-4. (cancelled)

5. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the ~~surfactant~~ hydrolyzed protein comprises a hydrolyzed chitin, a hydrolyzed collagen, a hydrolyzed casein, a hydrolyzed rice protein, a hydrolyzed soy protein, a hydrolyzed wheat protein, or a combination thereof.

6. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the ~~[[co-]]~~surfactant comprises an amphoteric surfactant, a zwitterionic surfactant, or a combination thereof.

7. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the ~~[[co-]]~~surfactant comprises a betaine.

8. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the ~~[[co-]]~~surfactant comprises a cocobetaine.

9. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the ~~[[co-]]~~surfactant comprises a cocoamidoethyl betaine, a cocoamidopropyl betaine, a lauryl betaine, a lauramidopropyl betaine, a palmamidopropyl betaine, a stearamidopropyl betaine, a stearyl betaine, a lauryldimethyl betaine, a cetyldimethyl betaine, a hydrogenated cocoamidopropyl betaine, a stripped coco(methyl ester)amidopropyl betaine, a derivative thereof, or a combination thereof.

10. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the ~~surfactant~~ hydrolyzed protein and [[co-]]surfactant are present in the range of from about a one to ten ratio to about a ten to one ratio of ~~surfactant~~ hydrolyzed protein to [[co-]]surfactant.

11. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the ~~surfactant~~ hydrolyzed protein and [[co-]]surfactant are present in about a one to one ratio.

12. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the dispersant composition is a solid, a liquid, an emulsion, or a mixture thereof.

13. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the dispersant composition further comprises a defoamer.

14. (original) The method of claim 13 wherein the defoamer comprises, a fatty acid, a vegetable oil, a polypropylene glycol, a HLB surfactant, or a combination thereof.

15. (original) The method of claim 13 wherein the defoamer comprises, rapeseed oil, aluminum stearate, "ENVIROGEM®" defoamer, or a combination thereof.

16. (original) The method of claim 13 wherein the defoamer is present in the dispersant composition in an amount sufficient to inhibit or prevent foaming.

17. (original) The method of claim 13 wherein the defoamer is present in the dispersant composition in the range of from about 0.01% to about 50% by volume of the dispersant composition.

18. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the dispersant composition further comprises a biocide.

19. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the dispersant composition is present in the cement composition in an amount sufficient to reduce the apparent viscosity of the cement composition prior to setting.

20. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the dispersant composition is present in the cement composition in an amount of from about 0.01% to about 6% by weight of cement.

21. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the cement is a hydraulic cement.

22. (original) The method of claim 22 wherein the hydraulic cement comprises calcium, aluminum, silicon, oxygen, sulfur, or a combination thereof.

23. (original) The method of claim 22 wherein the hydraulic cement comprises a Class A, a Class C, a Class H, or a Class G cement.

24. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the cement is a low-density cement.

25. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the cement composition further comprises water that is present in an amount sufficient to allow the cement composition to be a pumpable slurry.

26. (original) The method of claim 25 wherein the water comprises fresh water, salt water, or brine.

27. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the water component is present in an amount in the range of from about 16% to about 200% by weight of the cement in the cement composition.

28. (original) The method of claim 25 wherein the cement is a hydraulic cement, the water component is present in an amount from about 16% to about 200% by weight of the cement in the cement composition, and the dispersant composition is present in an amount in the range of from about 0.01% to about 6% by weight of the cement in the cement composition.

29. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the cement composition further comprises a fluid loss additive, a weighting material, a light weight material, a set retarder, an accelerator, a defoaming agent, a foaming agent, or a combination thereof.

30. (currently amended) A method of reducing the viscosity of a cement composition comprising the step of adding a dispersant composition comprising a surfactant and a ~~co-surfactant~~ hydrolyzed protein to the cement composition.

31–33. (cancelled)

34. (currently amended) The method of claim 30 wherein the ~~surfactant~~ hydrolyzed protein comprises a hydrolyzed chitin, a hydrolyzed collagen, a hydrolyzed casein, a hydrolyzed rice protein, a hydrolyzed soy protein, a hydrolyzed wheat protein, or any combination thereof.

35. (currently amended) The method of claim 30 wherein the ~~[[co-]]~~surfactant comprises an amphoteric surfactant, a zwitterionic surfactant, or a combination thereof.

36. (currently amended) The method of claim 30 wherein the ~~[[co-]]~~surfactant comprises a betaine.

37. (currently amended) The method of claim 30 wherein the ~~[[co-]]~~surfactant comprises a cocobetaine.

38. (currently amended) The method of claim 30 wherein the ~~[[co-]]~~surfactant comprises a cocoamidoethyl betaine, a cocoamidopropyl betaine, a lauryl betaine, a lauramidopropyl betaine, a palmamidopropyl betaine, a stearamidopropyl betaine, a stearyl betaine, a lauryldimethyl betaine, a cetyldimethyl betaine, a hydrogenated cocoamidopropyl betaine, a stripped coco(methyl ester)amidopropyl betaine, a derivative thereof, or combinations thereof.

39. (original) The method of claim 30 wherein the dispersant composition is present in the cement composition in an amount sufficient to reduce the apparent viscosity of the cement composition.

40. (original) The method of claim 30 wherein the dispersant composition is present in the cement composition in an amount of from about 0.01% to about 6% by weight of cement.

41–86. (cancelled)